CHAPTER 20.

An Acr to direct the mode of Prosecution in certain cases.

Persons may be prosecuted.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That from and after the passage of this act, all persons offending against any act or acts of the assembly of this state, which acts direct the mode of prosecution to be by action of debt, bill, plaint or information, or by bill, plaint or information, shall and may be prosecuted by bill of indictment, or action of debt, and not by bill, plaint or information, any thing in any of the said acts to the contrary notwithstanding.

CHAPTER 41.

A further Supplement to the Act, entitled, *An Act to enlarge the powers *1785, ch. of the High Court of Chancery.

See original act and notes, ante page 208.

Preamble.

WHEREAS, the acts of assembly of this state giving power to the chancellor to decree in certain cases against persons residing in other of the United States, and against persons residing beyond seas, have omitted to extend the said power to cases where the party or parties against whom relief is or may be wanted, have or shall remove out of this state to parts unknown: And whereas it is attended with great difficulty and expense to give such notice as the said acts require to persons resident in some one of the United States, or in parts beyond seas; therefore.

In certain

Sec. 2. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, cases chan- That in all cases where any person or persons, his or their cellor may decree, &c. heirs, devisees or representatives, are bound by any contract or agreement, and are non-residents of this state, if any bill is filed against such person or persons, his or their heirs, devisees or representatives, non-residents as aforesaid, to compel a specific performance of such contract or agreement, the chancellor shall and may, without the appearance of or hearing of the defendant or defendants, proceed to such decree as the justice and equity of the case may require; provided that the complainant or petitioner shall give such notice of his or her application, in newspapers or otherwise, as the chancellor shall direct; and every such decree shall have the same operation, effect and consequences, as a decree in virtue of the act aforesaid against persons residing in any of the United States, to which this is a supplement.

May order recorded,

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted by the General Assembly of deeds to be Maryland, That in case any deed hath been, or hereafter shall be, executed, to the validity of which deed recording is necessary, and such deed hath not been, or shall not be, recorded agreeably to law, without any fraudulent intention of the party